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Monday, February 11, 1952

Harry Labouisse and Colonel Abe Lincoln came to see me this morning about the question of economic and financial assistance to France from the United States. Later, I talked to Tommy about the European Army.

The financial situation in France is very bad. The dollar is now selling on the black market around 465 against the official rate of 350.

Evangeline and I had lunch at the Mediterranée. M. Jean, the proprietor, insisted on our being his guests and, amongst other good things, gave us a bottle of 1920 Château Gruaud Larose.

We had a long meeting at the Palais de Talleyrand this afternoon with Averell, Draper, Richards, Labouisse, Lincoln, Tasca, Tomlinson and others regarding American assistance to France.

Afterwards, I talked to Bill Pawley about speeding up American defense expenditures in France.

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To-night we met at my office to go over the telegrams prepared as a result of the earlier conference at the Talleyrand. They were finally reduced to a form acceptable to all concerned, and we dispersed about 9.30.

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